


BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2002-338-C - ORDER NO. 2003-580

SEPTEMBER 25, 2003

IN RE: Proceeding to Review Verizon's Cost Methodology for Pricing of Unbundled Network Elements (UNEs).) ORDER GRANTING) RECONSIDERATION OF) PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE) AND MODIFYING) HEARING DATE AND) PREFILING DATES FOR) TESTIMONY
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This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the "Commission") on the request of Verizon South Inc. ("Verizon" or the "Company") for reconsideration of the schedule established in the instant docket by Commission Order No. 2003-513 regarding the review of Verizon's cost methodology for pricing of unbundled network elements (UNEs).

On August 20, 2003, the Commission issued Order No. 2003-513 which established prefiling deadlines for the present proceeding. Order No. 2003-513 directs Verizon to prefile its direct testimony and exhibits on or before November 18, 2003, and all other parties to prefile their direct testimony and exhibits on or before December 16, 2003. Additionally, Order No. 2003-513 directs Verizon to file any rebuttal testimony and exhibits on or before December 30, 2003, and all other parties to file any surrebuttal testimony and exhibits on or before January 13, 2004.

On September 9, 2003, Verizon, through Verizon's State Director, filed a request for reconsideration of the procedural schedule established by Order No. 2003-513. In its

Request, Verizon proposes an alternative schedule, which according to Verizon, accommodates the upcoming holidays and eliminates a conflict pertaining to a similar UNE proceeding in the State of Washington that involves the majority of the witnesses that are to appear in South Carolina for the present case. Verizon asserts that the Company was unaware that the schedule and hearing in Washington had been revised prior to this Commission's consideration of a scheduling procedure in this matter. According to Verizon, the hearing for the Washington proceeding has been scheduled for January 6-23, 2004, and various other filing dates conflict with the filing of testimony in the present case. In support of its Request, Verizon encloses with its Request a copy of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission's Order No. 01 (Docket No. UT-033034) which modifies the schedule established in the Washington proceeding.

Verizon states that in order to avoid conflicts as stated above and to minimize any delays in the present case, Verizon proposes to file its direct testimony and exhibits on December 19, 2003. In order to provide the other parties the same period of time to respond, Verizon suggests setting January 23, 2004 as the date for all other parties to file their testimony and exhibits. As to rebuttal and surrebuttal testimony, Verizon requests that the Commission expand the time for filing slightly and set February 9, 2004 as the due date for Verizon's rebuttal testimony and set February 23, 2004 as the due date for all other parties' surrebuttal testimony. Lastly, Verizon proposes to begin the hearing in this matter on March 1, 2004.

In furtherance of its Request, Verizon states its belief that the additional time is warranted in light of the holidays preceding each of the filings and that in the Company's

experience, preparation of rebuttal testimony in complex UNE cases of this kind requires substantially more time. According to Verizon, the additional time would also remove further conflicts with the Washington proceeding.

After full review and due consideration of Verizon's Request, we grant the Request of Verizon for reconsideration of the schedule established in the present docket by Commission Order No. 2003-513, and we adopt the proposed alternative schedule presented by Verizon.

Accordingly, the Commission hereby issues a revised procedural schedule in the present docket by modification of Order No. 2003-513, dated August 20, 2003, captioned "Order Setting Procedural Schedule" as follows¹:

...and the hearing in this Docket shall be held on **Monday, March 1, 2004**, in the Commission Hearing Room at a time to be announced. Further and pursuant to 26 S.C. Regs. 103-869 (C) (Supp. 2002), the Commission hereby orders that twenty-five copies of the direct testimony and exhibits of Verizon shall be prefiled on or before **December 19, 2003**, and that twenty-five copies of the direct testimony and exhibits of all other parties shall be pre-filed on or before **January 23, 2004**. (Direct testimony and exhibits may be post-marked on these dates.) Also, any rebuttal testimony and exhibits of Verizon shall be pre-filed on or before **February 9, 2004**, and any surrebuttal testimony and exhibits of all other parties shall be pre-filed on or before **February 23, 2004**. (Rebuttal testimony and exhibits and surrebuttal testimony and exhibits must be in the offices of the

¹ The modifications herein relate only to the hearing date and the due dates for pre-filing of testimony and exhibits. The instructions concerning filing, number of copies to be filed, and service on other parties have not been modified from Order No. 2003-513, but those instructions are repeated herein for emphasis to the parties.

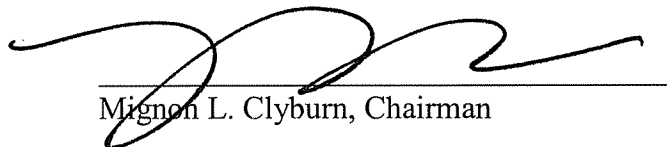
Commission and in the hands of the parties on these dates.) It should be noted that acceptance into the record of surrebuttal testimony and exhibits is subject to the discretion of the Commission.

In addition, parties shall serve their pre-filed testimony and exhibits on all other parties of record as required by the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All parties are reminded that all witnesses must be present during any hearing in this matter at the call of the Chairman, or the Commission may decline to allow the witnesses' testimony to be read into the record of the proceeding, and/or may decline to allow the witnesses' exhibits to be entered into the evidence of the case.

Please take notice that any party requesting modification of this schedule must file a request for such modification with the Commission.

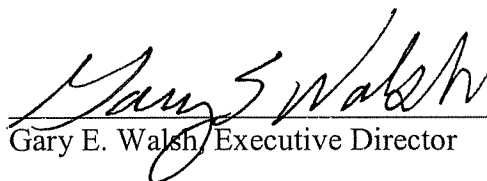
IT IS SO ORDERED:

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



Mignon L. Clyburn, Chairman

ATTEST:



Gary E. Walsh, Executive Director

(SEAL)